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35.C15664



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
HIDEKAZU SHIMOMURA et al.) Examiner: N/Y/A
Application No.: 09/922,643) Group Art Unit: 2852
Filed: August 7, 2001)
For: IMAGE SENSING DEVICE)
AND IMAGE FORMING)
APPARATUS) November 14, 2001

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner's attention to the documents listed below and on attached Form PTO-1449. A copy of each document so listed is enclosed.

U.S. Patent No. 5,896,472

JP 7-261628

An English-language translation is enclosed for the Japanese document, which is cited in the specification at page 2 and which is believed to be pertinent for the reasons noted there. In addition, U.S. Patent No. 5,896,472 is believed to be the English-language equivalent of the Japanese document.

Inasmuch as the subject application has not yet received a first Office Action, it is believed that this Information Disclosure Statement is timely. See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3). Accordingly, the Examiner is urged to study this information in its entirety and to form an independent determination of the materiality of the information to the claimed invention. Additionally, the Examiner is requested to indicate that this information has been considered by initialing the appropriate portion of Form PTO-1449.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



Attorney for Applicants

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